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one divine life. But mysticism has also at the same time inclined to an individualistic theory of religious insight. The state of illumination, of enthusiasm, or ecstasy, it has insisted may be quite unique and yielding a revelation not to be shared with any fellow-mortal. Thus it was that throughout the Middle Ages Christian mysticism wrought against ecclesiasticism in favor of individualism. It insisted that no priest or potentate could come between God and the individual soul, so that its leaders were justly hailed as "reformers before the reformation".

The final chapter offers an excellent account of how Christianity was compelled to defend itself in a world dominated by the intellectual conceptions of the Greeks, and how it was itself Hellenized in the process. Platonic tradition naturally played the chief rôle in providing the *formulae* for Christian dogma. It may be added that in this ecclesiastical setting these *formulae* have displayed a vitality quite disproportionate to their validity.

In concluding this brief review of Professor Moore's book the reviewer may perhaps voice the sentiment of other readers in expressing regret that some portion of the time spent, during college days, in the study of the Greek language, could not have been devoted to such an instructive volume.

WALTER GOODNOW EVERETT.

BOOKS OF MEDIEVAL AND MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY

History of the Franks, by Gregory, Bishop of Tours. Selections, translated with Notes by ERNEST BREHAUT, Ph.D. [Records of Civilization: Sources and Studies.] (New York: Columbia University Press. 1916. Pp. xxv, 284.)

THIS is the third volume which has thus far appeared in the series, *Records of Civilization*, and, like the other two, it has the same merits of attractive form and clear print. The work might well be entitled *Selections from the Writings of Gregory of Tours* for it contains selections not only from the *History of the Franks* but also from the *Eight Books of Miracles*. However, as the title indicates, the bulk of the work is concerned with the former of Gregory's writings, of which the skeleton is preserved entire. Many of the chapters have been translated in full. These include most of the passages usually cited in general histories of the medieval period and amount in total to somewhat less than half of the original work. The other chapters are translated by title, or are briefly summarized. In some cases, also, brief passages which seemed to the translator important have been translated and added to the summaries. In all, 248 pages are devoted to the translation of the *History of the Franks*. The selections from the *Eight Books of Miracles* occupy but fourteen pages and were chosen, as Dr. Brehaut indicates, primarily to illustrate Gregory's personality and point of view. The introduction, twenty-five pages in length, presents to the general

reader a brief discussion of Gregory's life, his language, and his conception of religion in its application to various phases of social activity. Thirteen pages of notes, directed likewise toward the general reader, are unobtrusively appended, together with three genealogical tables (genealogy of Merovingian kings, families of Clothar and Chilperic, and Gregory's family), a map of the Frankish dominions, and an index of proper names. A brief bibliography, supplemented by numerous bibliographical references in the notes, opens the way to further study for the interested reader.

The editor of the series in a brief preface anticipates "the protest which is sure to come from the medievalist when he sees the work of desecration at last accomplished", and seeks to justify the plan of selection in preference to a translation of the whole work not only on material grounds, but also on the basis of "a new social value". There are still enough old-fashioned folk, not yet fully submissive to the "higher law" in the publication of historical monuments, to raise the question whether the reader of this translation would have been seriously inconvenienced by a carefully indexed translation of the whole *History of the Franks*. Those who see in the work not only the reflection of Gregory of Tours as a figure and a man of his time, but for want of other material are compelled to glean from it a knowledge of the times also, are inclined to quarrel with it, not because it is too full, but rather because it is not full enough. The invaluable testimony which it affords to the gradual fusion of Latin and Teutonic institutions will remain important as long as European civilization is interested in the origin and formation of its fundamental social institutions. The persistent demand for the translations of Bede, of Froissart, of Joinville, and other like works would seem to indicate that this interest is not confined to "erudite medievalists", "who should in any case go to the original". It is hoped that the editors of the series may be able in the works now in preparation to make a more generous allowance for these other readers as well.

This is the most serious objection which may be offered to the work, the more so because Dr. Brehaut has been for some years occupied with a study of the period of Gregory of Tours and might have easily rendered a translation of the whole work. However, the volume, as it is, should prove very useful. The selections have been made with discrimination. Persons interested in legal procedure may regret that the compurgation of Fredegunda in proof of the legitimacy of young Clothar (bk. VIII.) was not translated in full, but most of the famous passages have been translated entire. The translator has undertaken the very difficult task of reproducing Gregory's vagaries of style and grammar without unnecessarily confusing the reader. In this he has been fairly successful, though it must have required real courage to translate *Hispanias* "the Spains", for elsewhere he translates the same word by the common "Spain". The smoothness of the translation is somewhat marred by unnecessary lack of punctuation-marks, and the work as a

whole suffers from needless errors in proof-reading: *e. g.*, Alemanni, Alamanni; Syagrius, Siagrius; and varying use of capital letters.

As a whole, however, the work will be welcomed by many both in the schools and without. Gregory's varied genius as a writer and as an historical figure is amply illustrated, and much of the *History of the Franks* is now accessible to those who do not read Latin. Others, who desire more, fortunately may consult the more complete translations in other languages which are listed in the bibliography.

A. C. KREY.

Epidemics resulting from Wars. By Dr. FRIEDRICH PRINZING. Edited by HARALD WESTERGAARD, Professor of Political Science in the University of Copenhagen. [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Division of Economics and History, John Bates Clark, Director.] (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1916. Pp. xii, 340.)

THE author states that a large number of authors have dealt with epidemic disease among the combatants in war, but that this is the first serious attempt to trace the effects of these epidemics upon the civil population involved. While few pictures of the horrors of war have a proper place in a scientific treatise like this, the statistical marshalling of the pestilences of the Napoleonic Wars, or of the siege of Paris, should bring home to the thoughtful the terrible realities of war as vividly as a painting by Verestchagin, or a narrative by von Suttner.

A short reference is first made to the diseases which have most often been connected with military operations, especially during the last century. The interpretation of medical terms becomes progressively more difficult as one goes back into the history of epidemics and this is fully appreciated by the author, who, wisely, has not attempted to determine in all cases the exact nature of the "plague" or "fever" referred to by contemporary writers. It is sufficient to show the extent of the epidemics of the Thirty Years' War without attempting to decide just how much there was of bubonic plague, or of typhus fever, or of smallpox, or to determine what proportion of the typhus fever of the Napoleonic Wars was really typhoid fever. Original sources of information have been consulted as far as possible and, of course, as one approaches the present, these become more numerous and reliable. The amount of work involved in the entirely new study of smallpox in the Franco-German War must have been enormous. The thesis, throughout, is well supported by a large volume of convincing statistical evidence.

A short chapter deals with the somewhat legendary accounts of such matters as the influence of the Crusades in the distribution of leprosy through Western Europe, of the spread of syphilis by soldiers during the latter part of the fifteenth century, and of the extension of typhus fever in the next century as a result of the wars with the Turks. A